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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Switzerland/Finland

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SUBJECT Contribution to the Finnish Communist Party by a Swiss Communist Sympathizer

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1. In May 1951, Johann Paul (Hans) Schawwecker, the controlling interest behind the Swiss preserved and frozen food combine which runs the firms Franex A.G., Unipeltin A.G., and Chipektin A.G. of Wrich, made secret payments to the Finnish Communist Party. The size of these payments is not known, nor is the name of the Finnish Communist who received them. It is believed, however, that the payments were made in Switzerland by Wilhelm Dominikus Richardz, a director of Unipeltin A.G., who was acting as Schawwecker's agent. It is suspected that Schawwecker is also making similar contributions to the Communist Party in Western Germany.
2. Schawwecker is well known in Switzerland as a Communist sympathizer who has made large contributions in the past to the Partei der Arbeit and to the Gesellschaft Schweiz-Sowjetunion. Because Schawwecker's support of the Communists was mentioned in the 1947 trial of Karl Hofmaier, former PDA leader in Basel, Schawwecker has reportedly been circumspect in recent years about lending support to the Communist cause.

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